I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

MAIL STOP MISSING PARTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application of:

Takafumi ASADA, et al.

Conf. No.:

7908

Group Art Unit:

3682

Appln. No.:

10/727,860

Examiner:

To Be Assigned

Filing Date:

December 4, 2003

Attorney Docket No.:

8861-487US(P32963-01)

Title: HYDRODYNAMIC BEARING AND DISC ROTATION APPARATUS USING THE

SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Simultaneously with the filing of the above-identified application with which this Preliminary Amendment is being filed, and prior to the calculation of the filing fee, Applicant hereby amends the application as follows, without prejudice: